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SEGA®

SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG™



DARKEST
STORM
PART 1 OF 3



15th Anniversary. 2006
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG

SPAZ

THE DARKEST STORM

Part One: THE GATHERING TEMPEST

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I HAVE LEARNED
EVERYTHING ABOUT
**SONIC THE
HEDGEHOG.**

I HAVE KNOWN OF
EVERY BATTLE
AND VILLAIN HE
HAS FACED.

OF ALL HIS FOES,
HIS DEADLIEST
HAVE BEEN...

...DOCTOR IVO
"EGGMAN"
ROBOTNIK...

...IXIS
NAUGUS...

...AND
MAMMOTH
MOGUL.

...EACH A THREAT.
HOWEVER...

I AM THE NEW
FORCE THAT WILL
DISPOSE OF THEM
AND SONIC.

I AM CALLED
ANONYMOUS.

Special thanks to
DYNA LOPEZ and
ROBERT LEFFLER
at SEGA LICENSING.



I HAVE DECIDED
TO USE KNOT-
HOLE, HOME
TO SONIC.

A NEW AND
UNTESTED
KING SEEKS
TO REVIVE
THE OLD
WAYS...

...SO IN LIGHT OF
YOUR SERVICES TO
MY FATHER, I WOULD
GLADLY RETURN YOUR
KNIGHTHOOD.*

I APPRECIATE
IT, ELIAS... ER,
YOUR MAJESTY...
BUT I DON'T NEED
A TITLE TO KEEP
ME COOL.

COOLER
THAN "HERO OF
EVERYTHING"?
NAA, UNCLE CHUCK,
IT'S COOL. BESIDES,
THERE'S ALREADY
A KNIGHT IN
THE FAMILY--
YOU!

COME
NOW,
SONIC.
KNIGHT-
HOOD IS A
PRESTIGIOUS
HONOR.

*S # 78
AND
93.

THAT'S ONE REASON I
ASKED FOR YOU, SIR
CHARLES. IT'S ALSO WHY
I HOPED YOU WOULD
ACCEPT SONIC.

EVEN DURING THE
GREAT WAR, MY
FATHER COULD RELY
ON HIS KNIGHTS AND
THE COURT OF
ACORN...

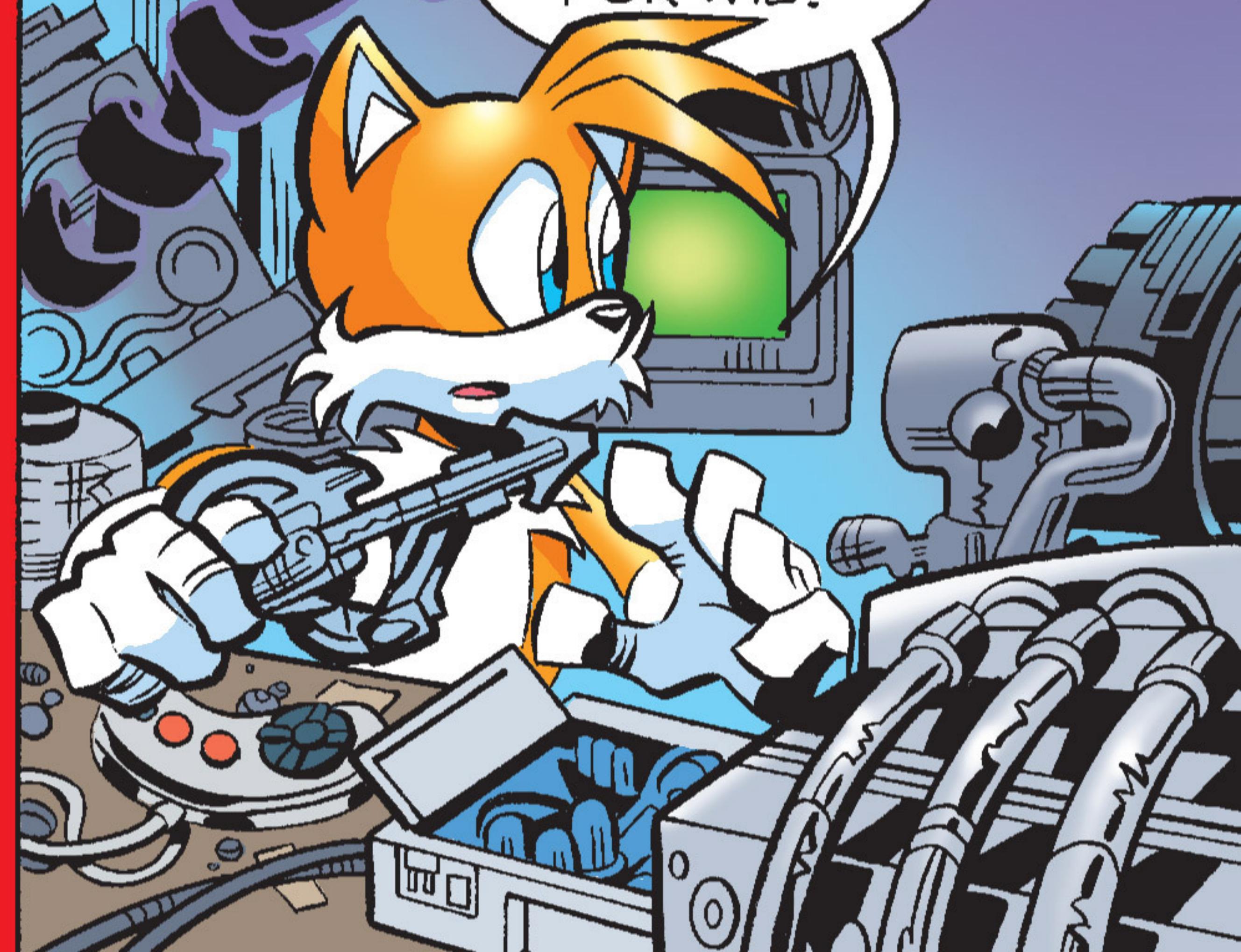
NOW I AM KING
AND MY PEOPLE ARE
STILL AT WAR WITH
DR. EGGMAN.

IF I AM GOING
TO LEAD US
TO PEACE, I NEED
SUPPORT. I NEED
A NEW COURT
OF ACORN.

STARTING WITH
ANYONE WHO
REMAINS FROM
THE OLD COURT.

PARDON ME,
BUT IS A YOUNG
MASTER PROWER
IN?

WHA--?
WHO'S LOOKING
FOR ME?



YOUR UNCLE,
CHOSEN ONE.
I AM MERLIN
PROWER.

R-REALLY?
ATHAIR TOLD
ME ABOUT
YOU*...BUT...
I NEVER
THOUGHT I'D
GET TO...
I'VE NEVER
HAD...

I KNOW, MILES.
I'M SORRY I'VE
BEEN KEPT AWAY
FROM YOU FOR
SO LONG.

*S # 149.

I AM HERE NOW, THOUGH.
AND I PROMISE TO HELP
REBUILD OUR FAMILY.

I WISH WE HAD
MORE TIME, BUT
I'M AFRAID I
MUST SPEAK WITH
THE KING RIGHT
AWAY.

-SNIFF! IT'S OKAY,
AS LONG AS YOU
PROMISE TO STAY.
WHAT DO YOU
NEED TO SEE
THE KING FOR?

HE HOLDS PART OF THE
KEY TO SAVING THE ANCIENT
WALKERS... AND TO KEEPING
HIM SAFELY TRAPPED.

MAMMOTH
MOGUL!*

*S # 150

AS THE MOBIANS TRY TO REBUILD...

...DOCTOR EGGMAN QUICKLY WORKS TO DESTROY.

I HAVE AN UPDATE FOR YOU, FATHER.

GIVE DADDY SOME GOOD NEWS, A.D.A.M.!

YOUR EGG GRAPES ARE NEARLY COMPLETE. SENSORS READ 99% BIOFIELD-DELETION.

FANTASTIC!

FATHER ?

YOU SEE, M, THIS MEANS I CAN SOON MOVE ON TO MY NEXT PHASE!

ONCE THE ERASURES ARE COMPLETE, I WILL SYPHON POWER OUT OF THE ZONE OF SILENCE, PURIFYING IT THROUGH THE EGG GRAPES, GIVING ME THE RAW ENERGY OF AN ENTIRE DIMENSION!

WHY DRAIN THE MOBIANS ?

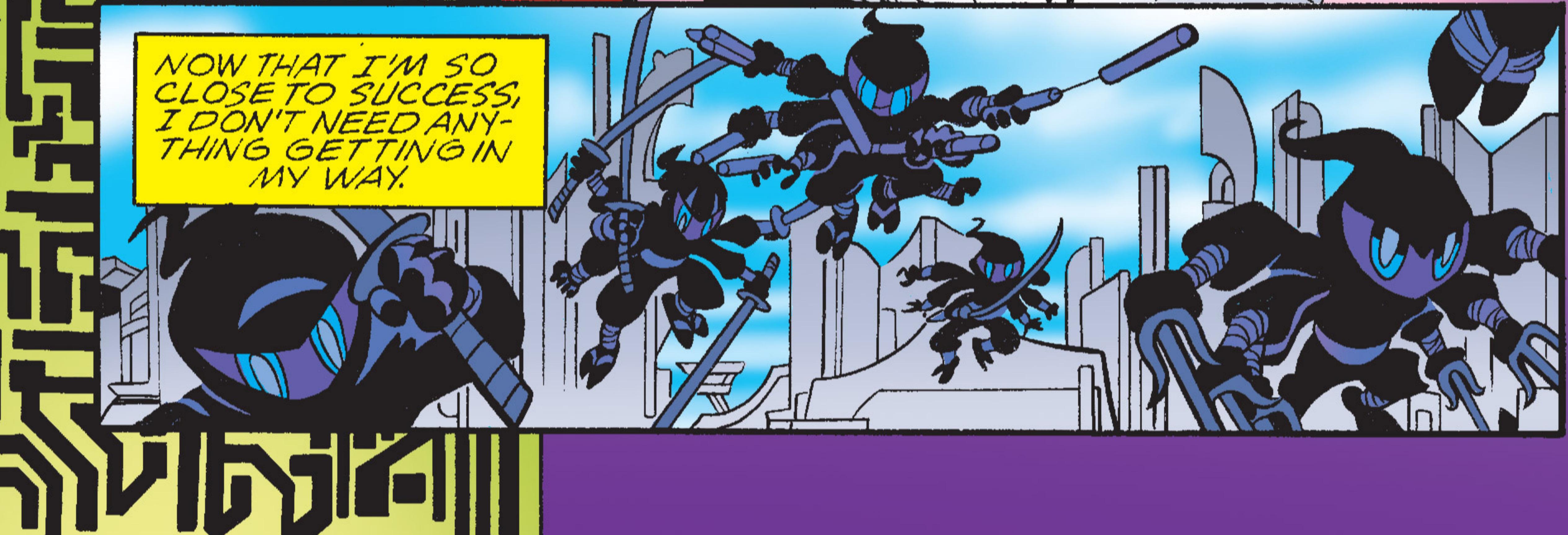
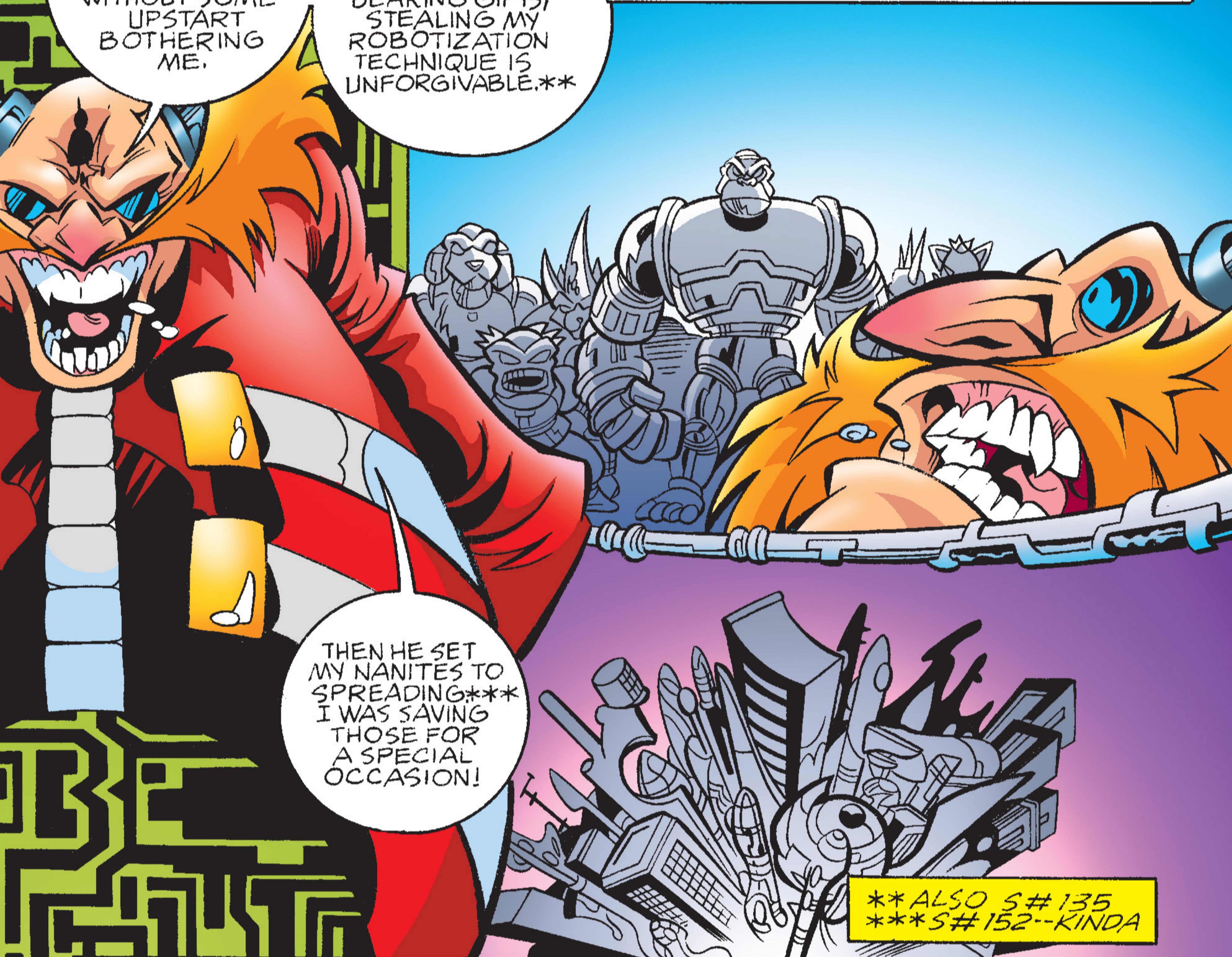
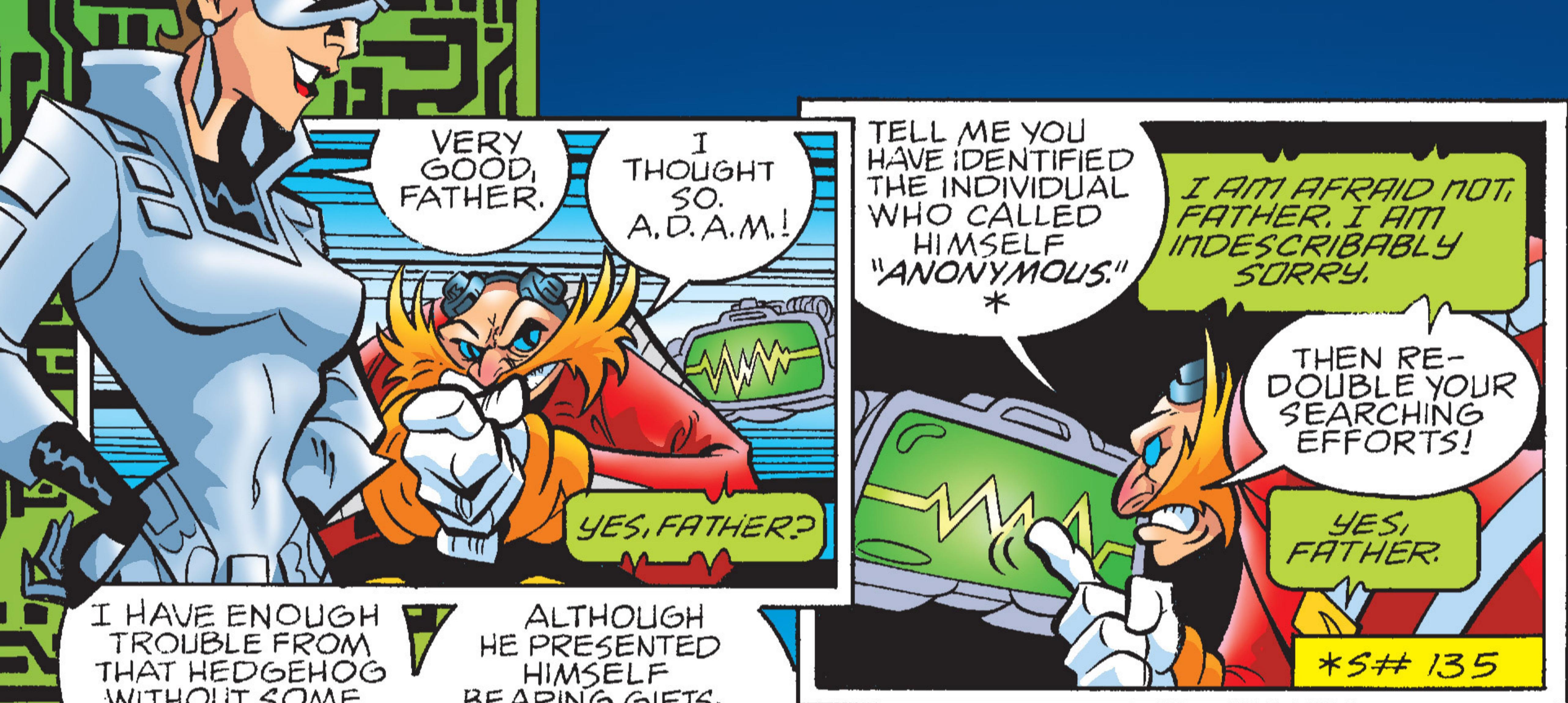
SO THAT THEIR EMPTY HUSKS WILL ACT AS A KIND OF FILTER!

IS THERE NOT A MORE EFFICIENT WAY? CAN YOU NOT REACH YOUR VISION...

...IN A QUICKER WAY?

OH, I'M SURE I CAN.

BUT WHERE WOULD THE FUN BE IN THAT?



I HAVE HAD TO
TAKE INTO
ACCOUNT
DIVINE INTER-
VENTION.

HOWEVER,
THE GOD-LIKE
ANCIENT
WALKERS
ARE EASY ENOUGH
TO DEAL WITH.

MERLIN
PROWER
IS ON
HIS WAY.

PLEASE
HOLD ON
JUST A
LITTLE
LONGER.

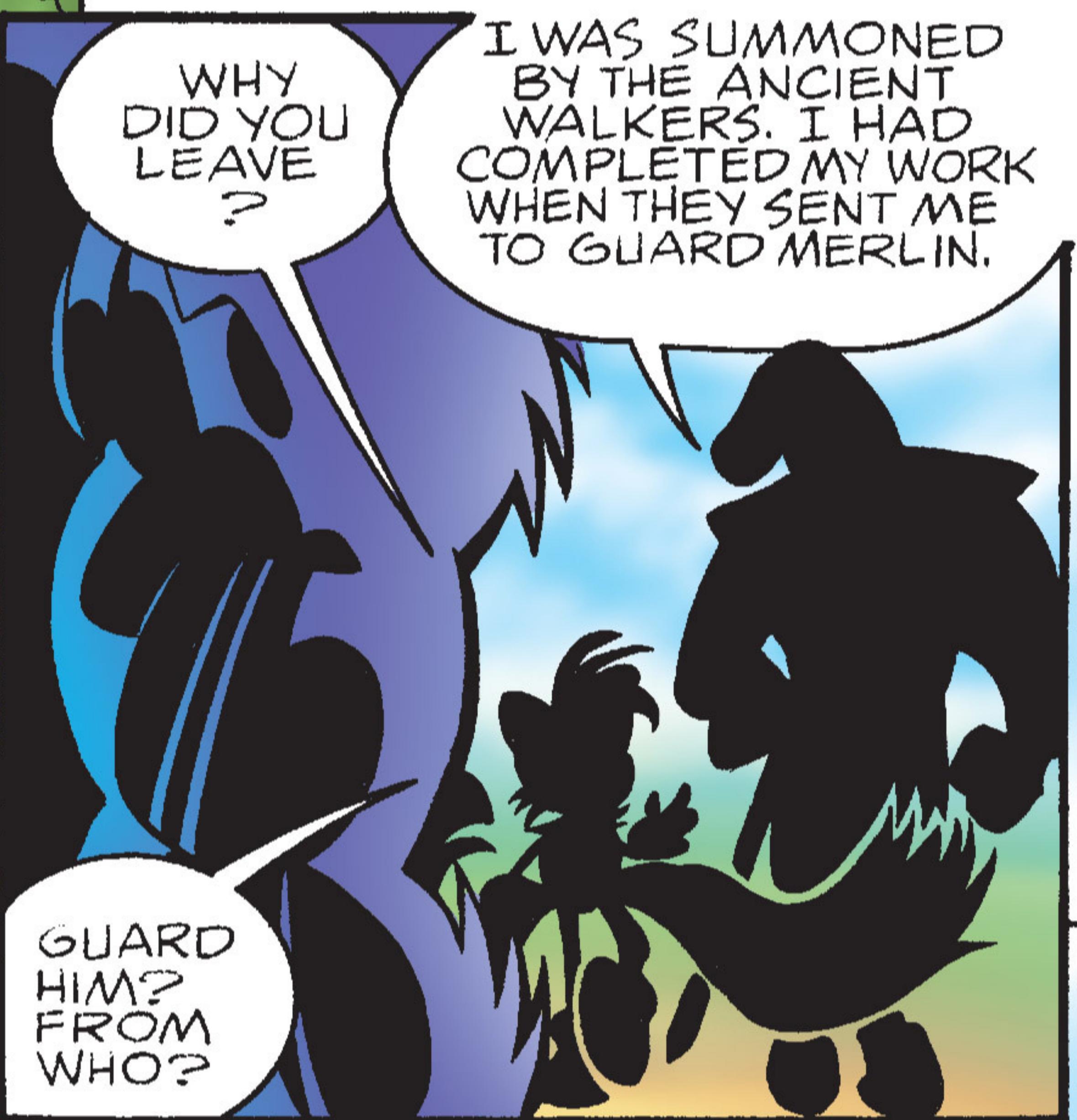
OUR
PRESERVATION
IS NO LONGER
UNDER OUR
CONTROL.

SINCE THE COMING
OF THE CHAOS EMERALDS, WE HAVE
WATCHED LIFE ON MOBIUS FLOURISH. WE HAVE
JUDICIOUSLY ACTED TO PRESERVE THE WORLD
FROM DARKNESS. FOR OUR DILIGENCE, WE HAVE
BEEN STRUCK A MORTAL BLOW. OUR POWER IS
FAILING.

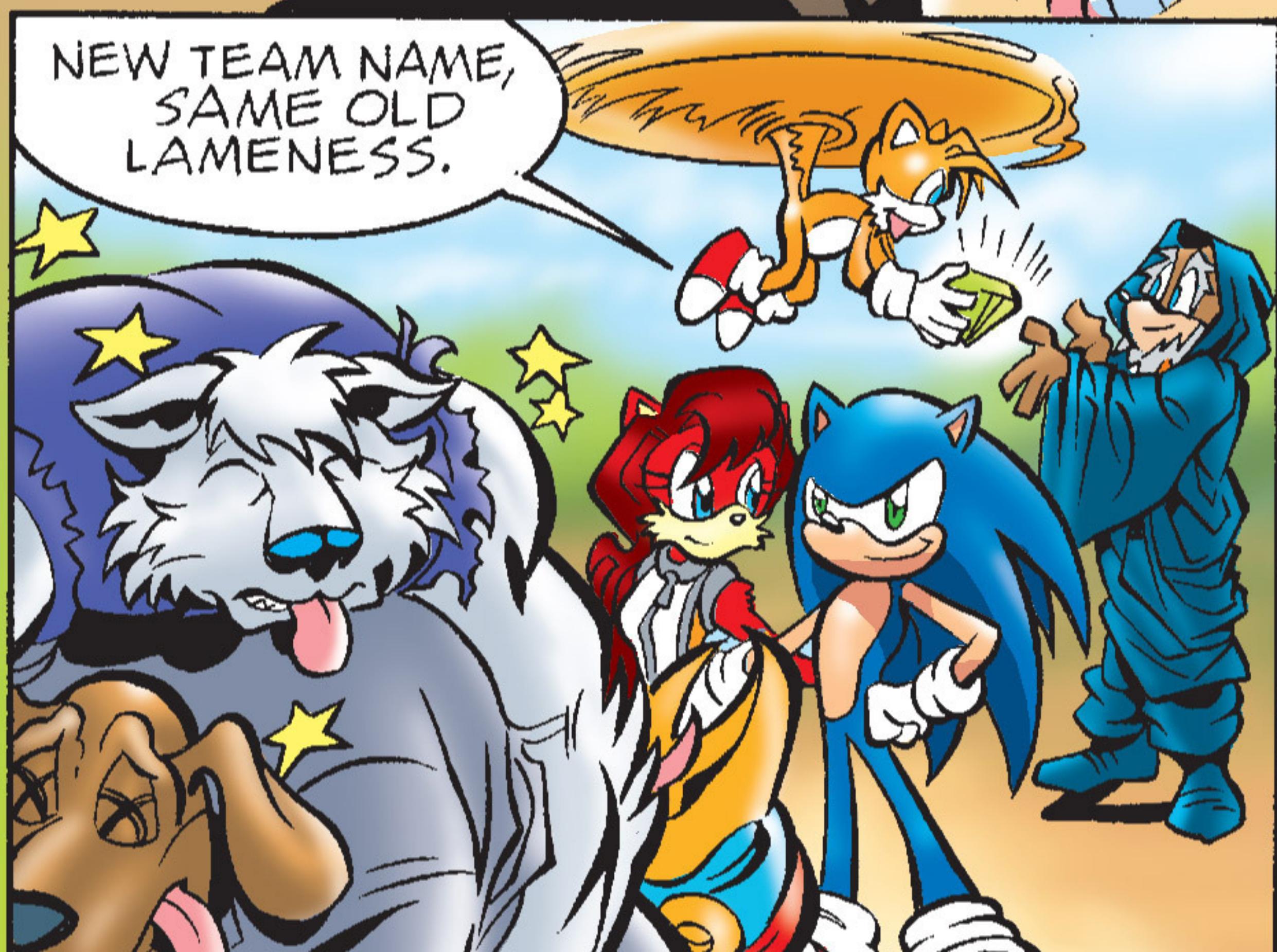
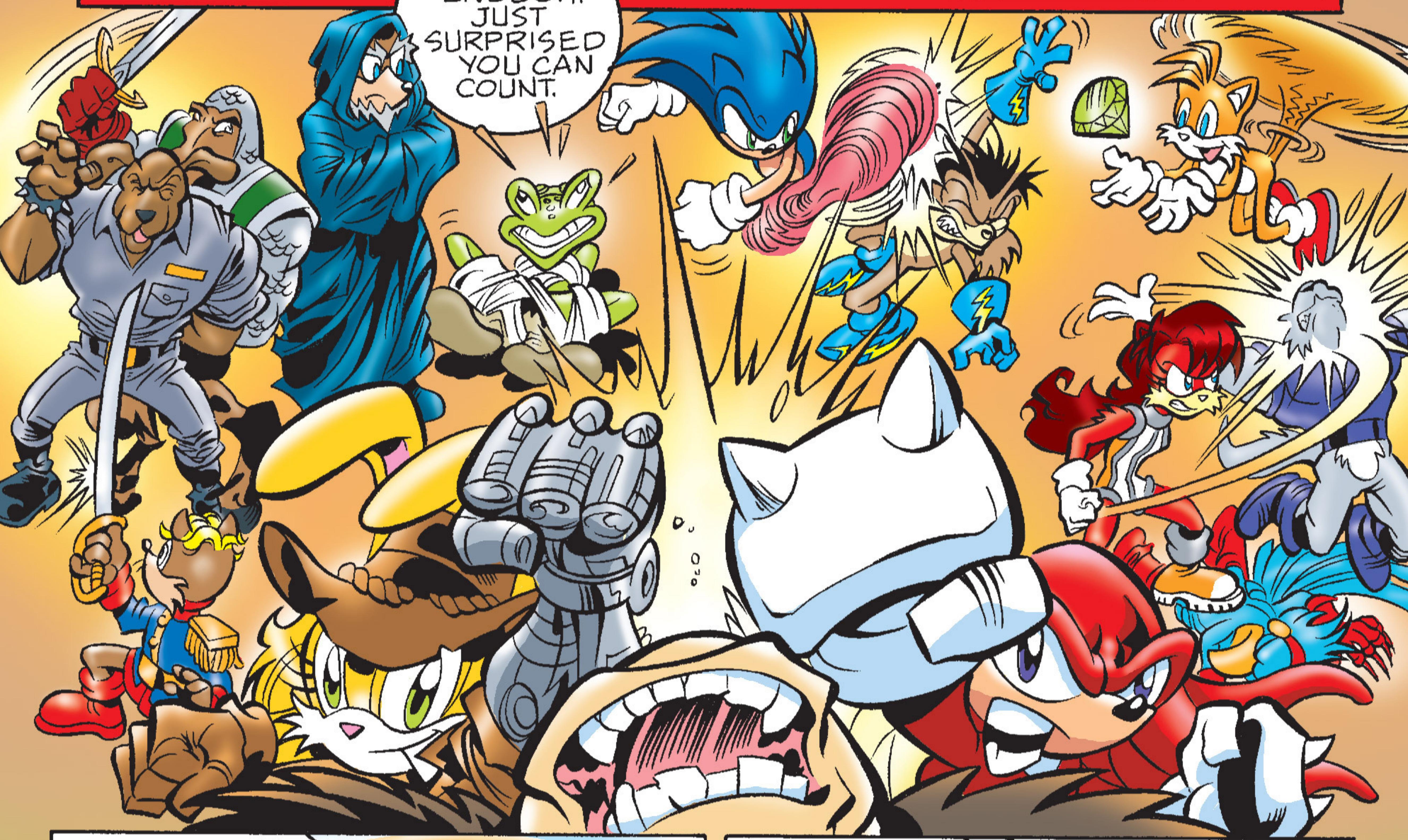
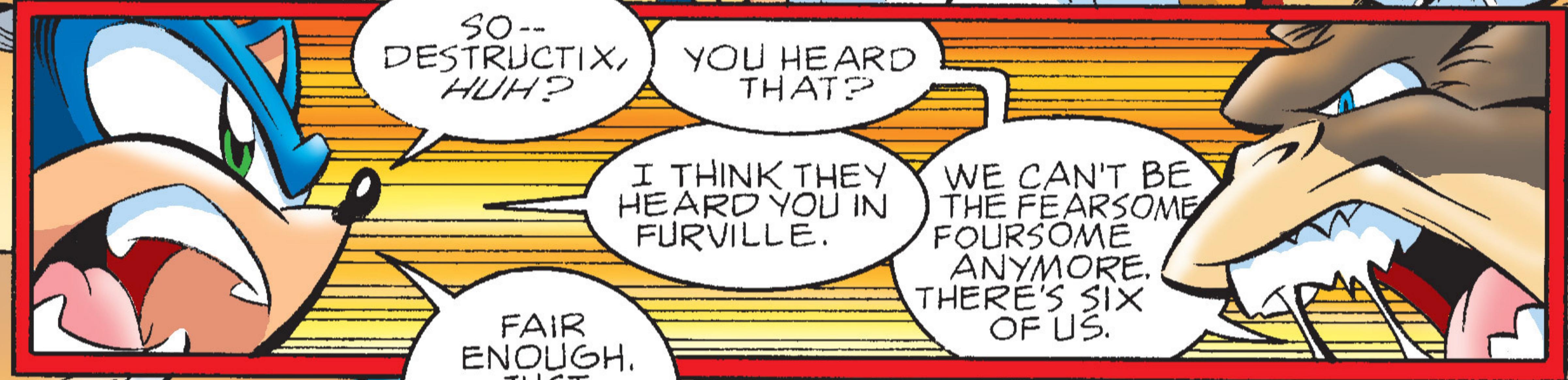
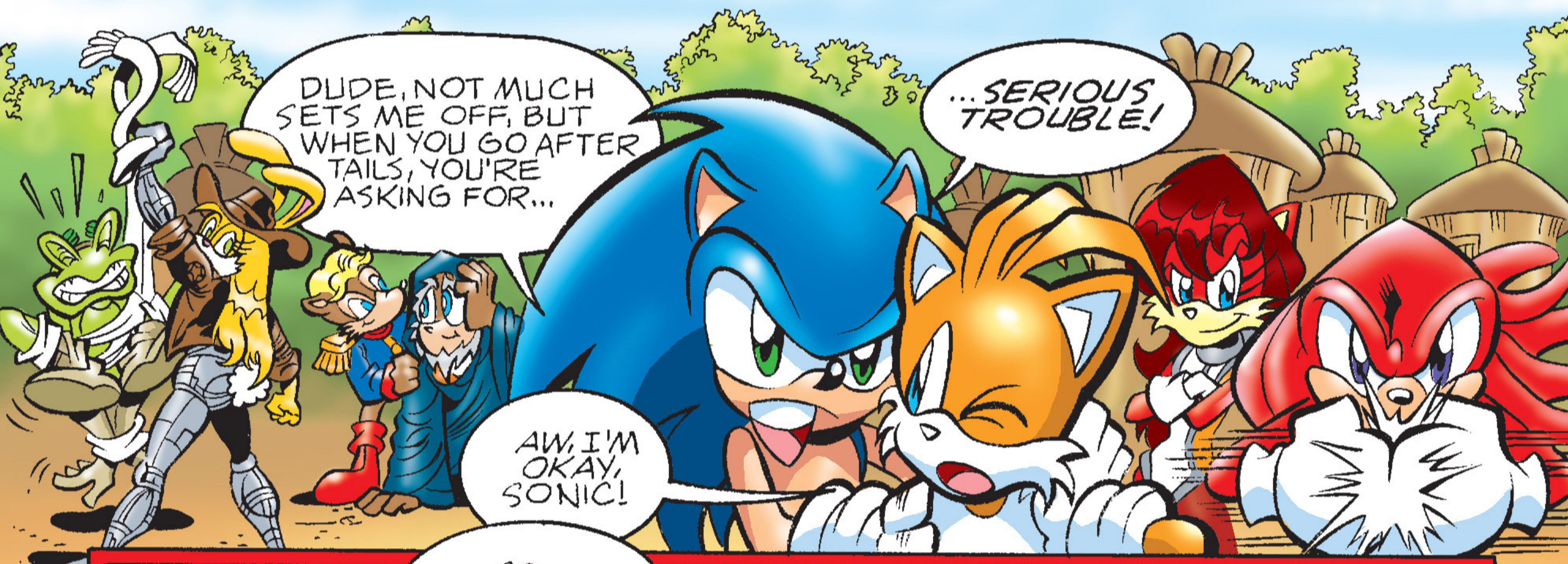
WE HAVE SELECTED YOU ... AURORA,
YOU ... ATHAIR, AND MERLIN PROWER
TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF THE
CHAOS FORCE AND TO PROTECT THE
WORLD IN OUR STEAD.
OUR GRIP ON LIFE IS SLIPPING. ANY
ONE EVENT COULD TAKE US AWAY.

WE
FORESEE
A GREAT
STORM
APPROACHING.

YOU
MUST BE
PREPARED.







A NEW KING,
OLD HEROES,
SAME FATE.

EACH UNAWARE
THAT THEIR
WORK WILL BE
FOR NAUGHT.

YOUR TIMING COULDN'T
BE BETTER! MERLIN
PROWER! SIR CONNERY!
PLEASE RISE AND TELL
ME WHAT HAS BROUGHT
YOU HOME.

I WAS CALLED FROM YOUR
FATHER'S SERVICE BY THE
ANCIENT WALKERS. THEY
GAVE ME THIS--THE SWORD
OF LIGHT--TO PURGE THE
WORLD OF DARK MAGIC.
WITH THAT DUTY FINISHED,
THEY CHARGED ME WITH
GUARDING MERLIN PROWER
AND HIS PRECIOUS
CAPTIVE.

CAPTIVE?

MAMMOTH MOGUL, MY
LORD--RECENTLY
DEFEATED AND TRAPPED
WITHIN HIS OWN CHAOS
EMERALD.* HE FELL
TO A TRAP SET BY THE
ANCIENT WALKERS
LONG AGO.

*S # 149

SWISH

THOUSANDS OF
YEARS AGO, THE
ANCIENT WALKERS
FORESAW MOGUL TO
BE A THREAT. WHILE
THEY REFUSED TO
COMBAT DESTINY,
THEY DID CURSE
THE EMERALD THAT
MOGUL WAS FATED
TO OBTAIN.

MOGUL USED ITS
POWER, AND THE
CHAOS EMERALD
ALWAYS LED HIM TO
A KEY MISJUDGE-
MENT--UNTIL HE
WAS ULTIMATELY
TRAPPED
WITHIN.

SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

ONCE HE WAS FREE OF THE MASTER EMERALD*, MOGUL USED THE LAST OF HIS STRENGTH--

...TO WOUND THE ANCIENT WALKERS. THEY HAVE BEEN DYING EVER SINCE.

*SONIC # 79

IF THEY DIE, THEIR CHARM OVER THE EMERALD WILL BREAK, AND MOGUL WILL BE FREE.

THEN WHAT CAN WE DO?

SINCE YOU'VE COME TO ME, I'M GUESSING I CAN HELP SOMEHOW.

INDEED! YOUR CROWN AND ITS MATE--THE **SWORD OF ACORN**--ARE ESSENTIAL TO SAVING THE ANCIENT WALKERS.

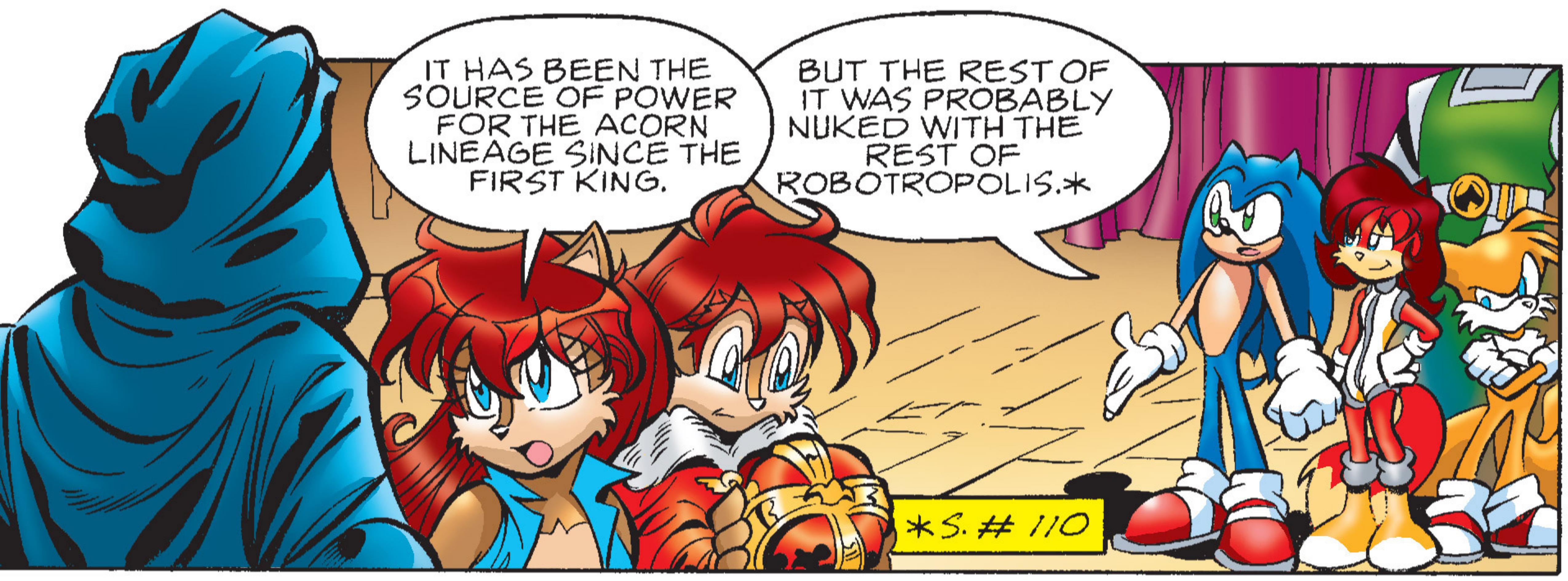
THE CROWN? WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT IT AND THE SWORD?

I CAN ANSWER THAT FOR YOU, ELIAS.

SALLY!

I DEALT WITH BOTH PERSONALLY, BROTHER.

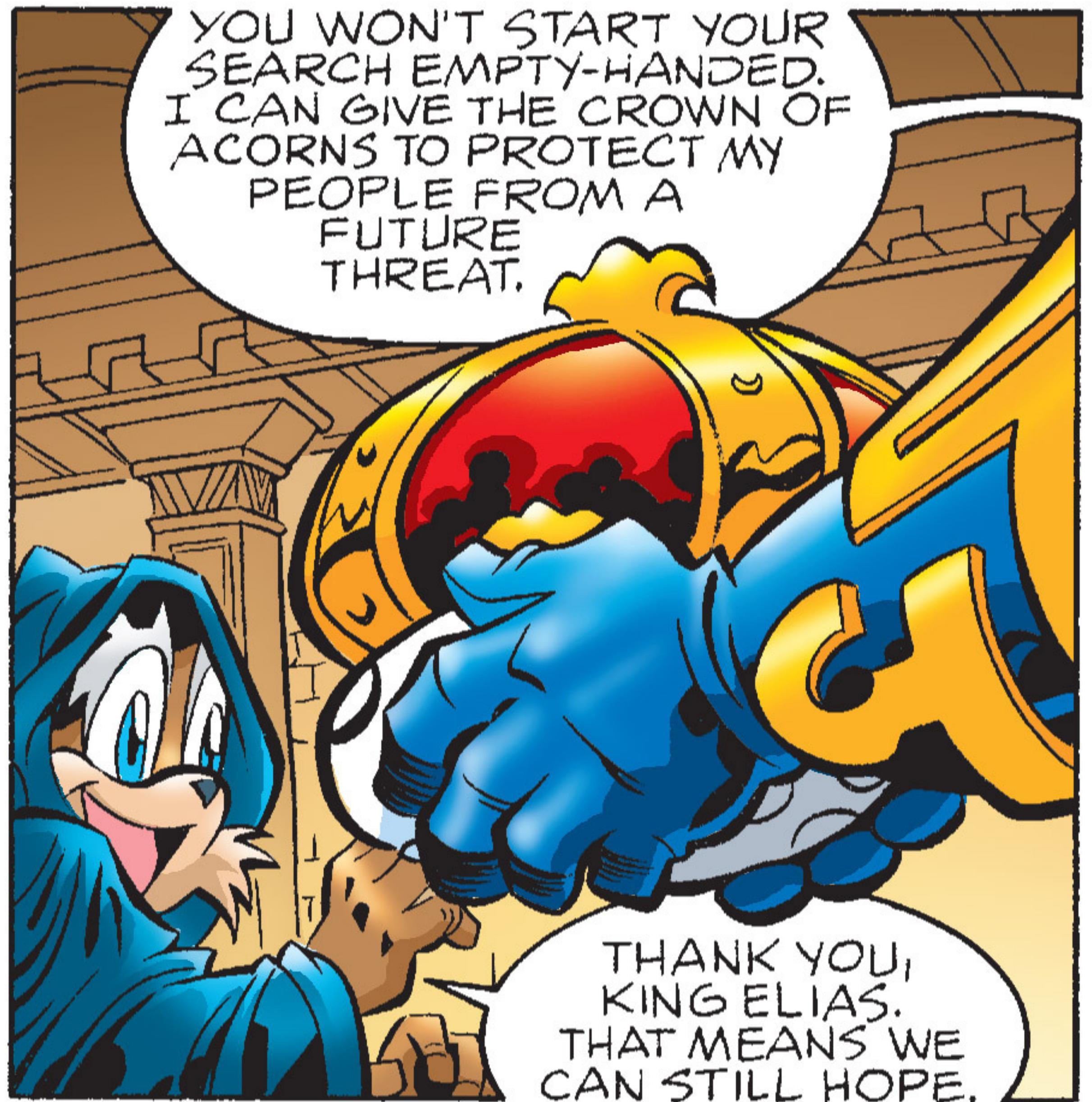
THEY WERE MADE FROM A PURE SAMPLE OF THE **SOURCE OF ALL**--THE SUBSTANCE THAT IS THE BASE MATERIAL FOR EVERYTHING. THEY CAN CHANNEL AND PRODUCE VAST AMOUNTS OF MAGICAL ENERGY.



I GAVE THE SWORD OF ACORNS TO THE ORPHANS OF UMA ARACHNIS WHEN IT SEEMED TO BE GROWING TOO... COMMANDING.**

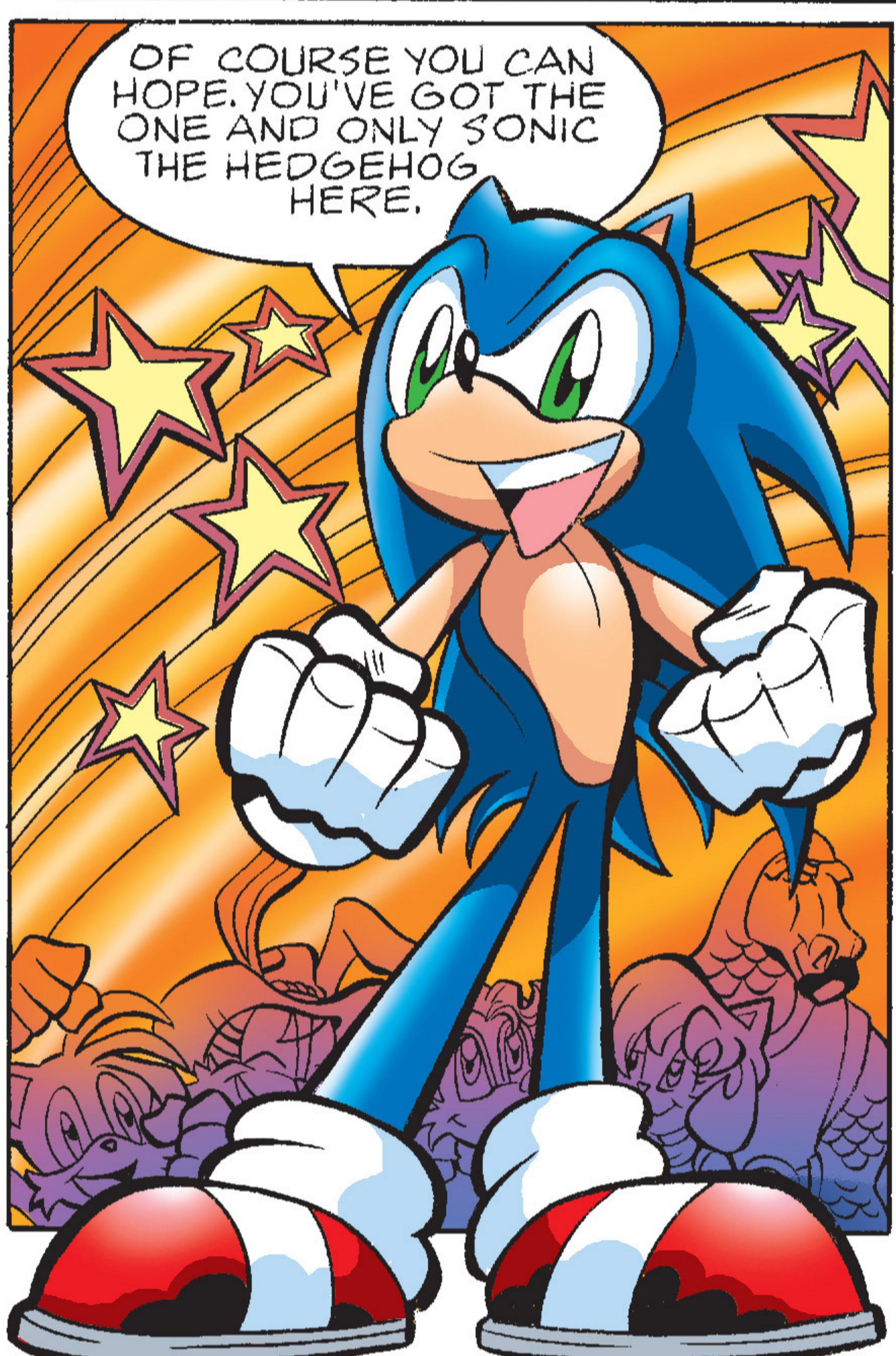
I WAS AFRAID THEY WOULD BE SEPARATED. WE MUST FIND THE SWORD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

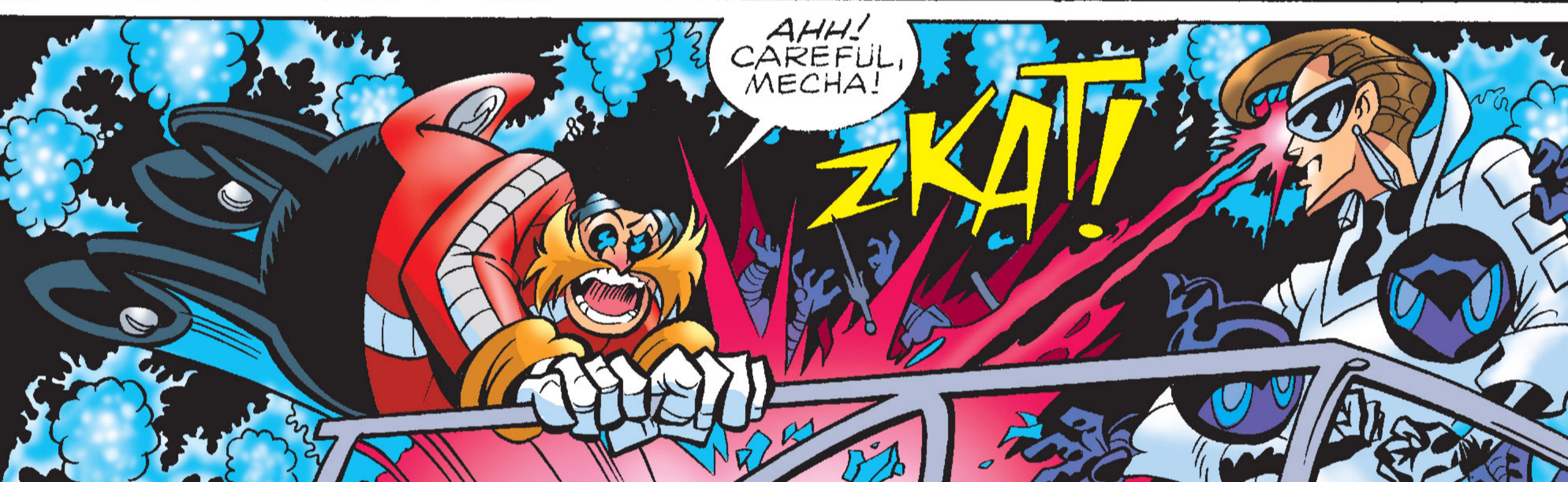
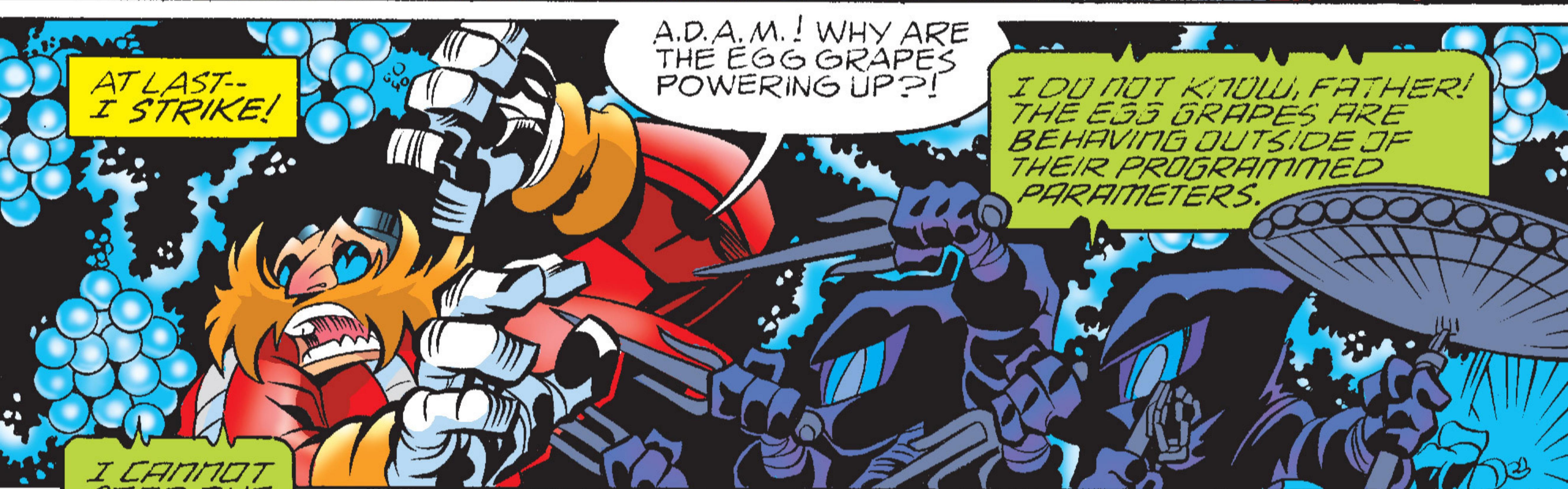
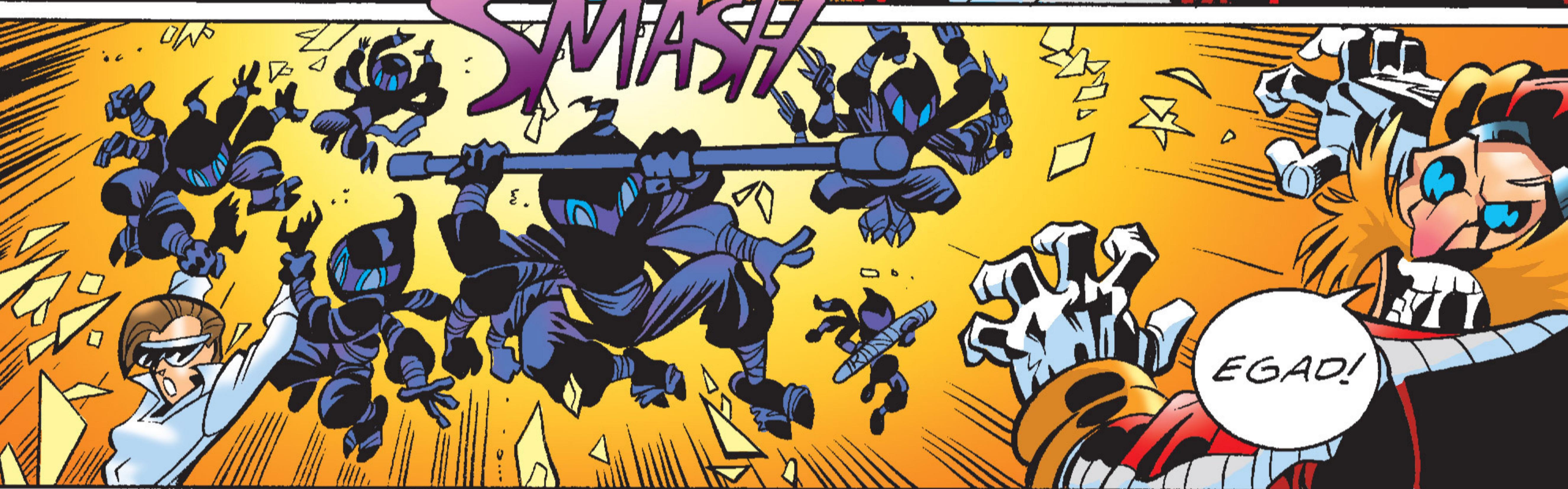
YOU WON'T START YOUR SEARCH EMPTY-HANDED. I CAN GIVE THE CROWN OF ACORNS TO PROTECT MY PEOPLE FROM A FUTURE THREAT.




OF COURSE YOU CAN HOPE. YOU'VE GOT THE ONE AND ONLY SONIC THE HEDGEHOG HERE.

I HOPE THOSE CRAZY KIDS HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING STUPID WITH THE SWORD.







LOCK
DOWN
THE EGG
GRAPE
CHAMBER,
A.D.A.M.!

YES,
FATHER.

MY CAREFUL MON-
ITORING AND MAN-
IPULATION PAYS OFF
AT LAST!

IN ONE ACT OF
LOYALTY, THEY
SET OFF THE
CHAIN OF
EVENTS
THAT I
HAVE
DESIRED!

THE HARSH
DIMENSIONAL
BREACH IS
JUST ENOUGH...

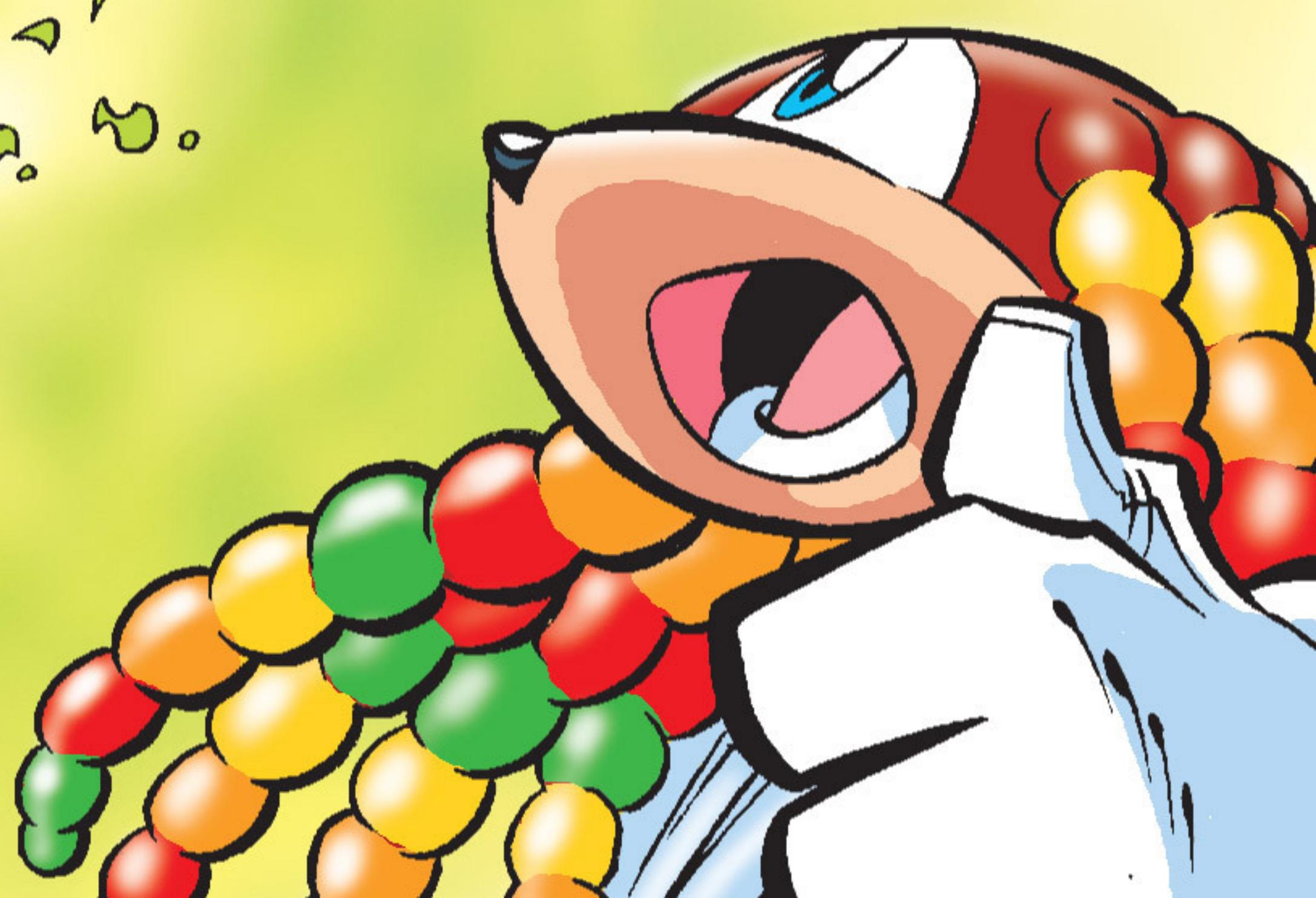
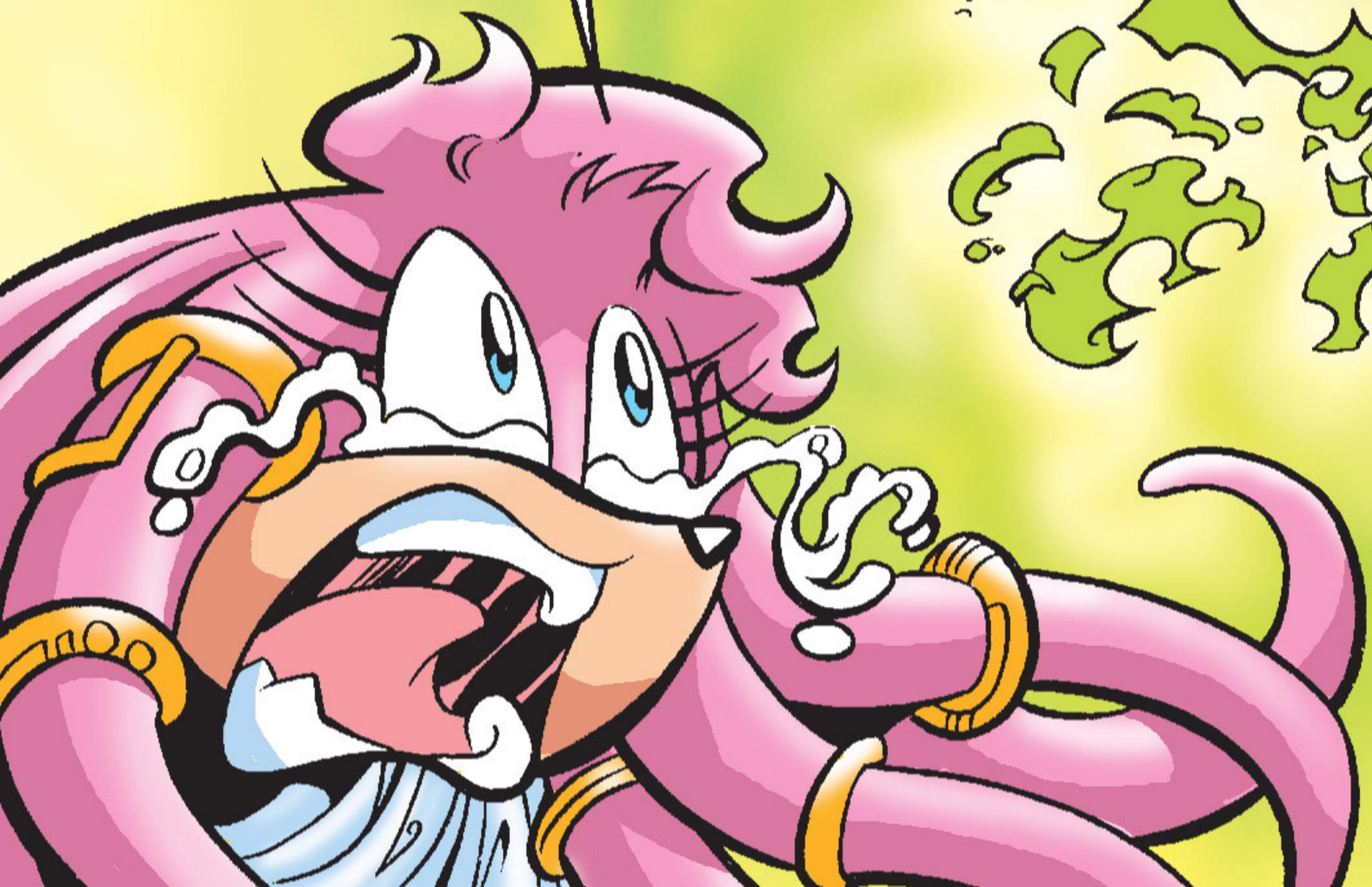


...TO PUSH THE
ANCIENT
WALKERS
PAST THEIR
LIMIT.

no!



FATES
PRESERVE
US...



THANK YOU ALL.
WITH YOUR SUPPORT
AND THIS PROMISING
BEGINNING,
WE MAY NOW--

AUGH!

UNCLE
MERLIN!

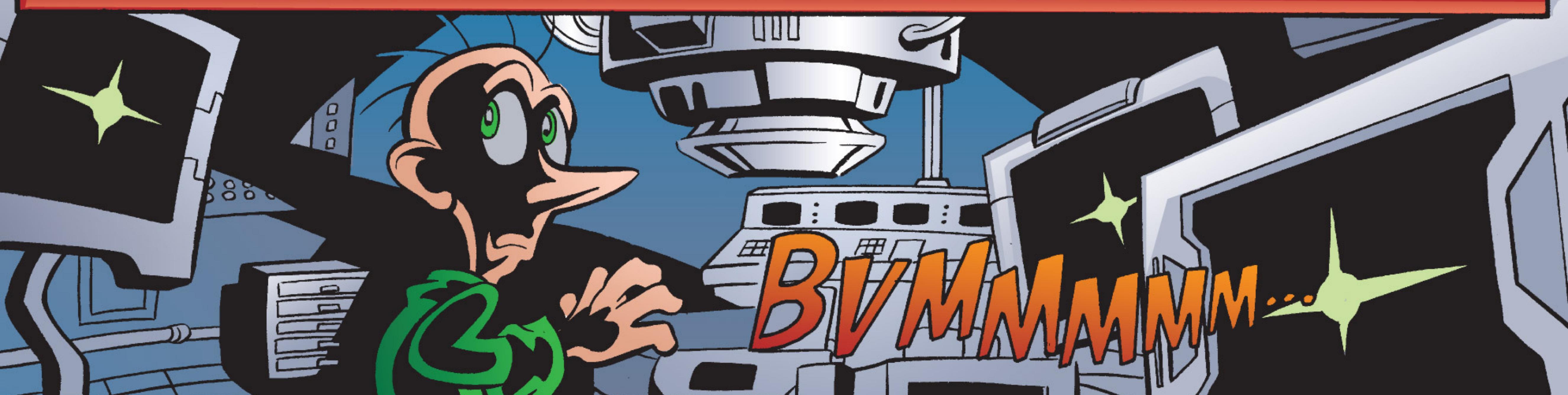
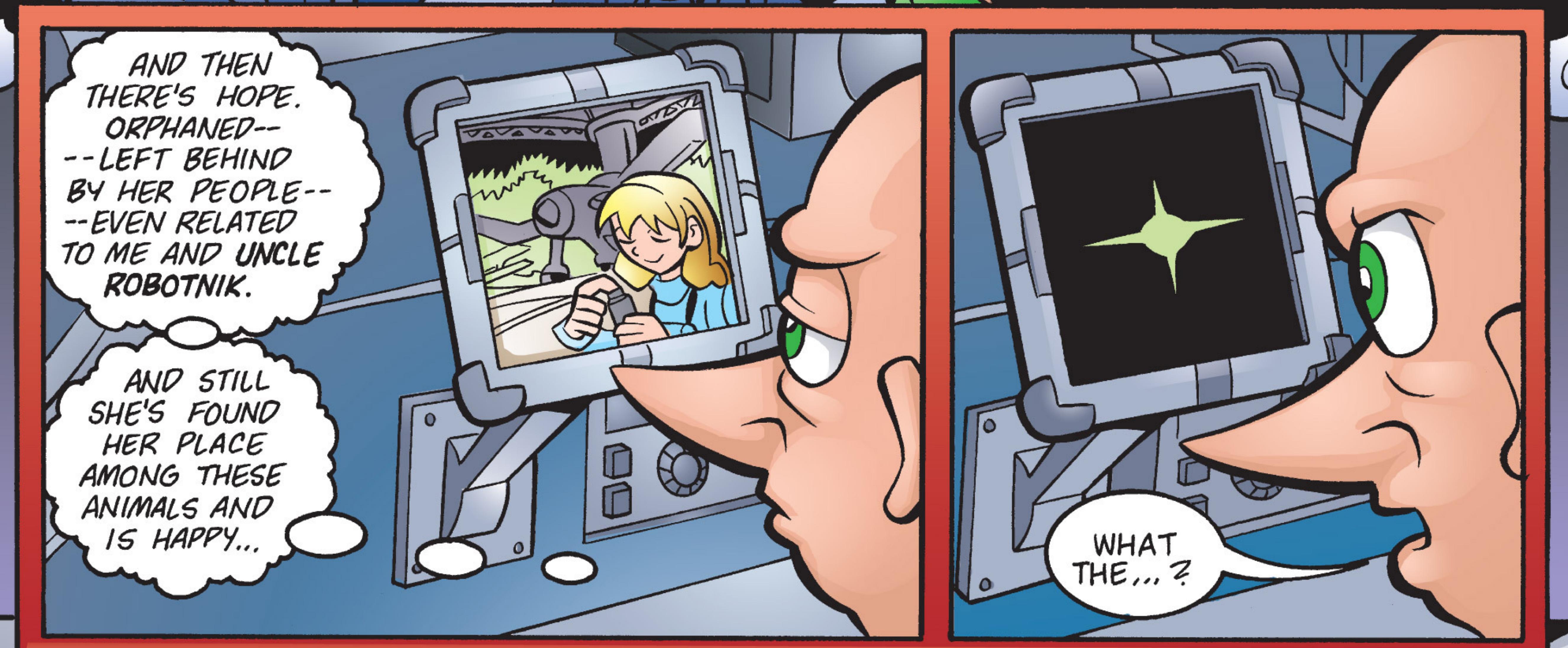
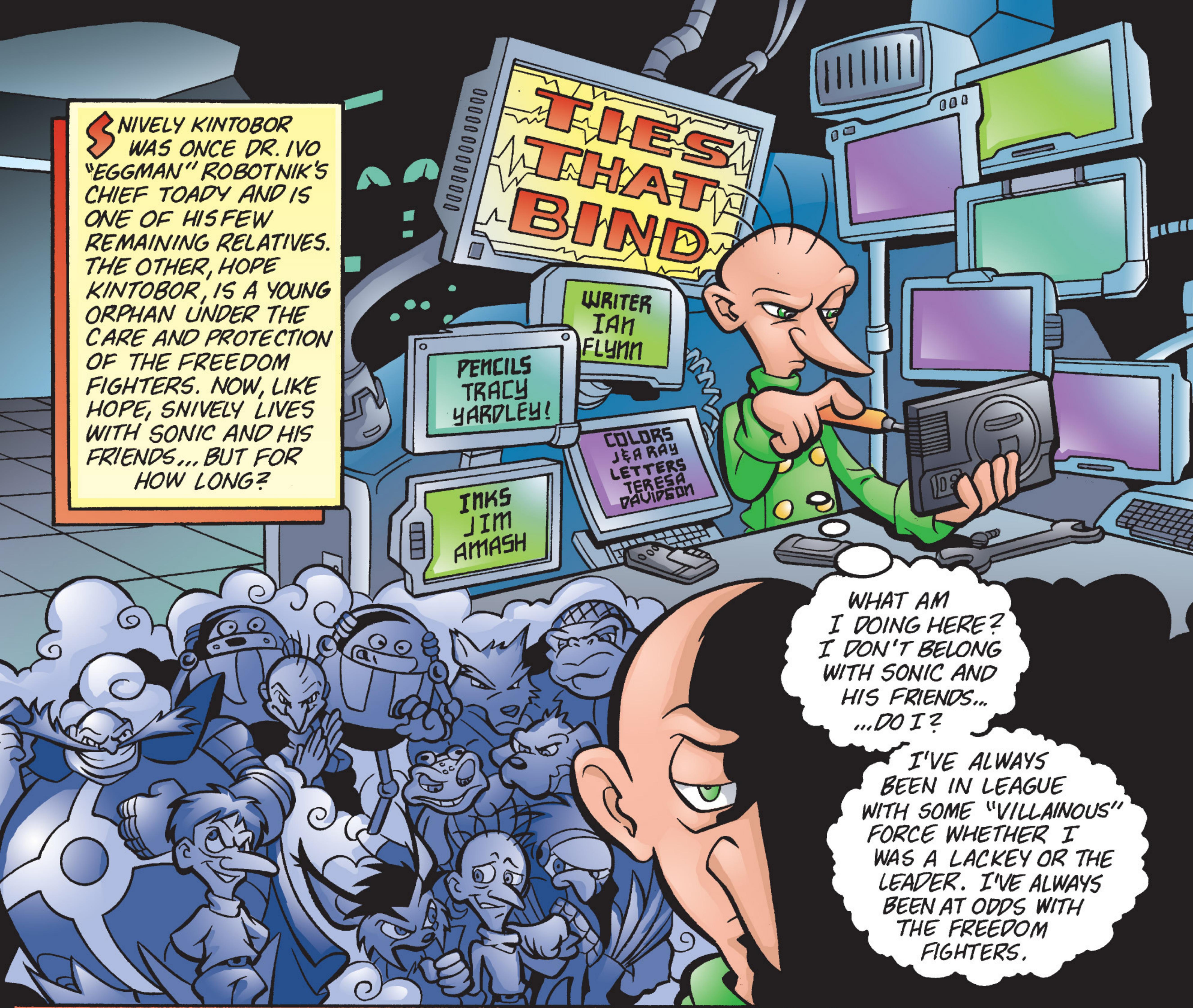
A VALIANT
ATTEMPT,
SAGELY
PROWER...

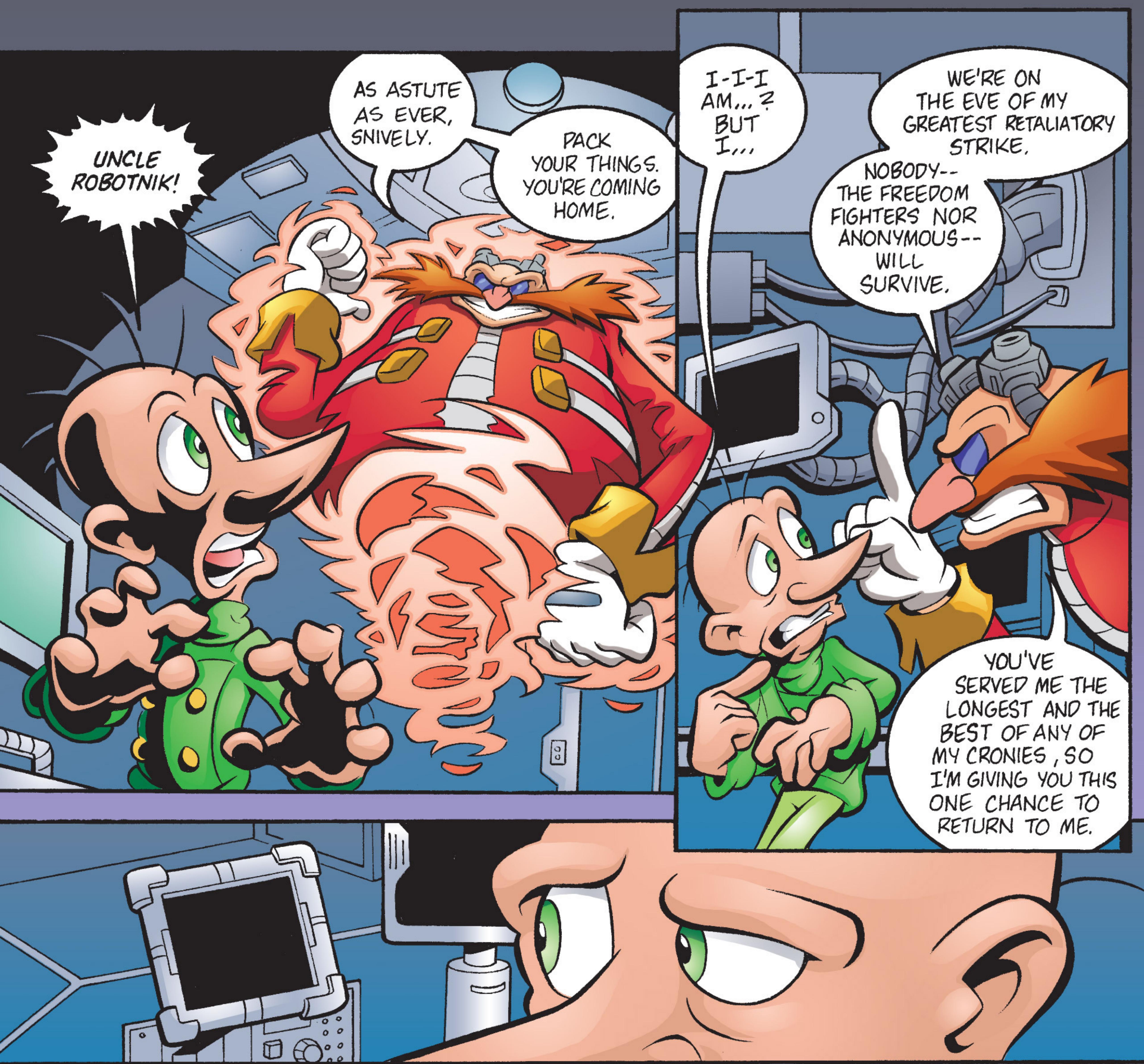
...BUT YOUR
EFFORTS
WERE TOO
LITTLE,
TOO LATE.

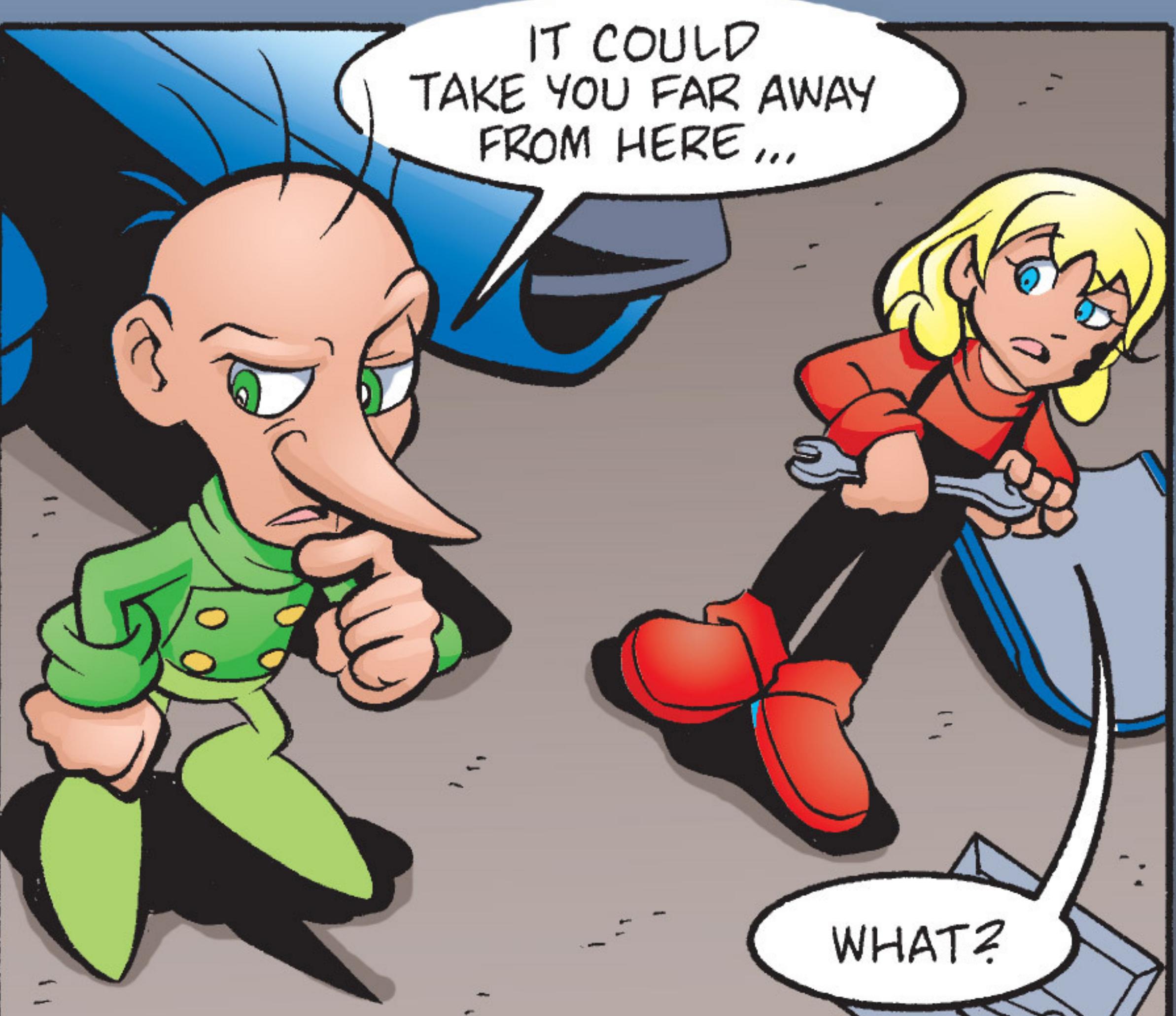
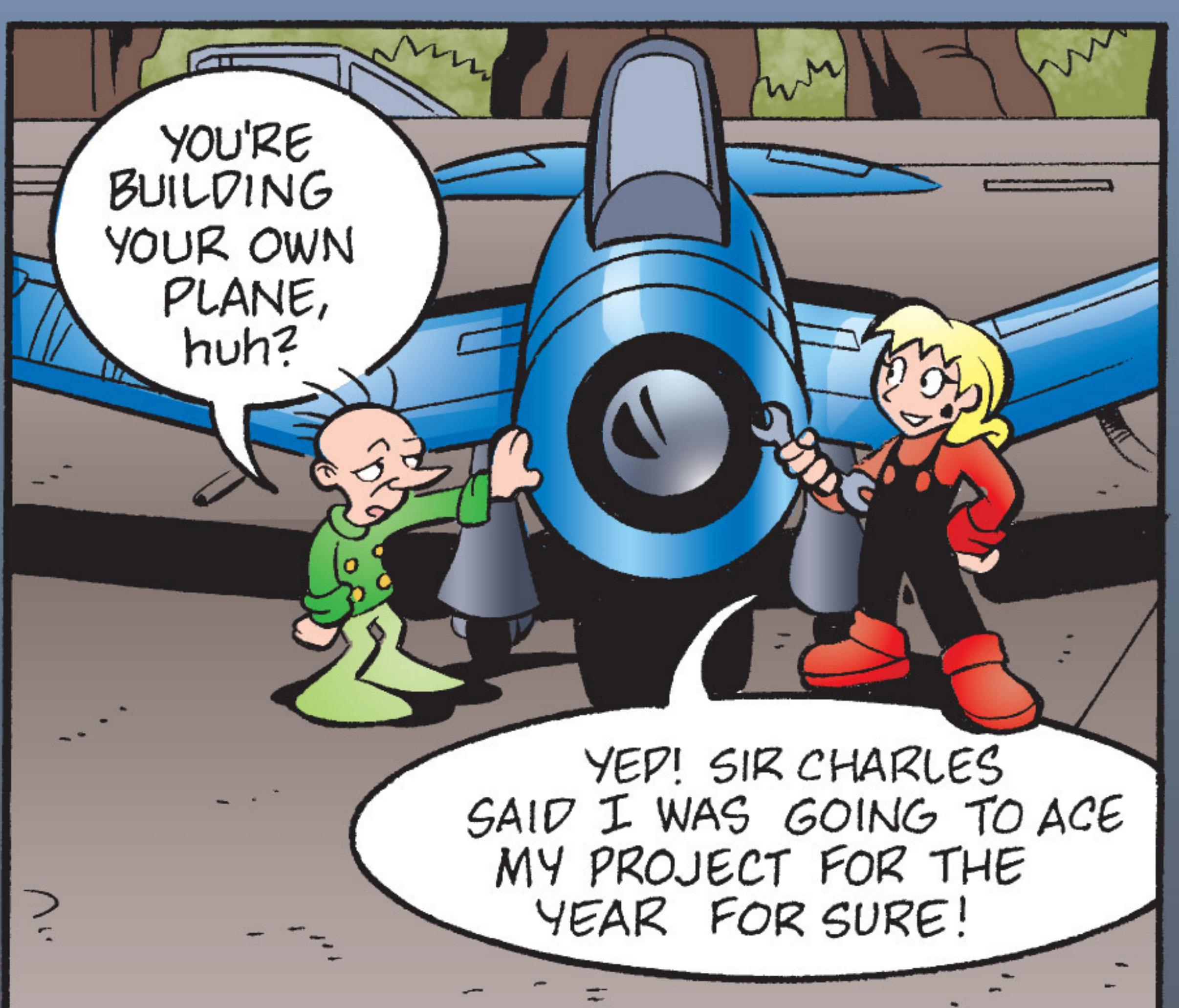
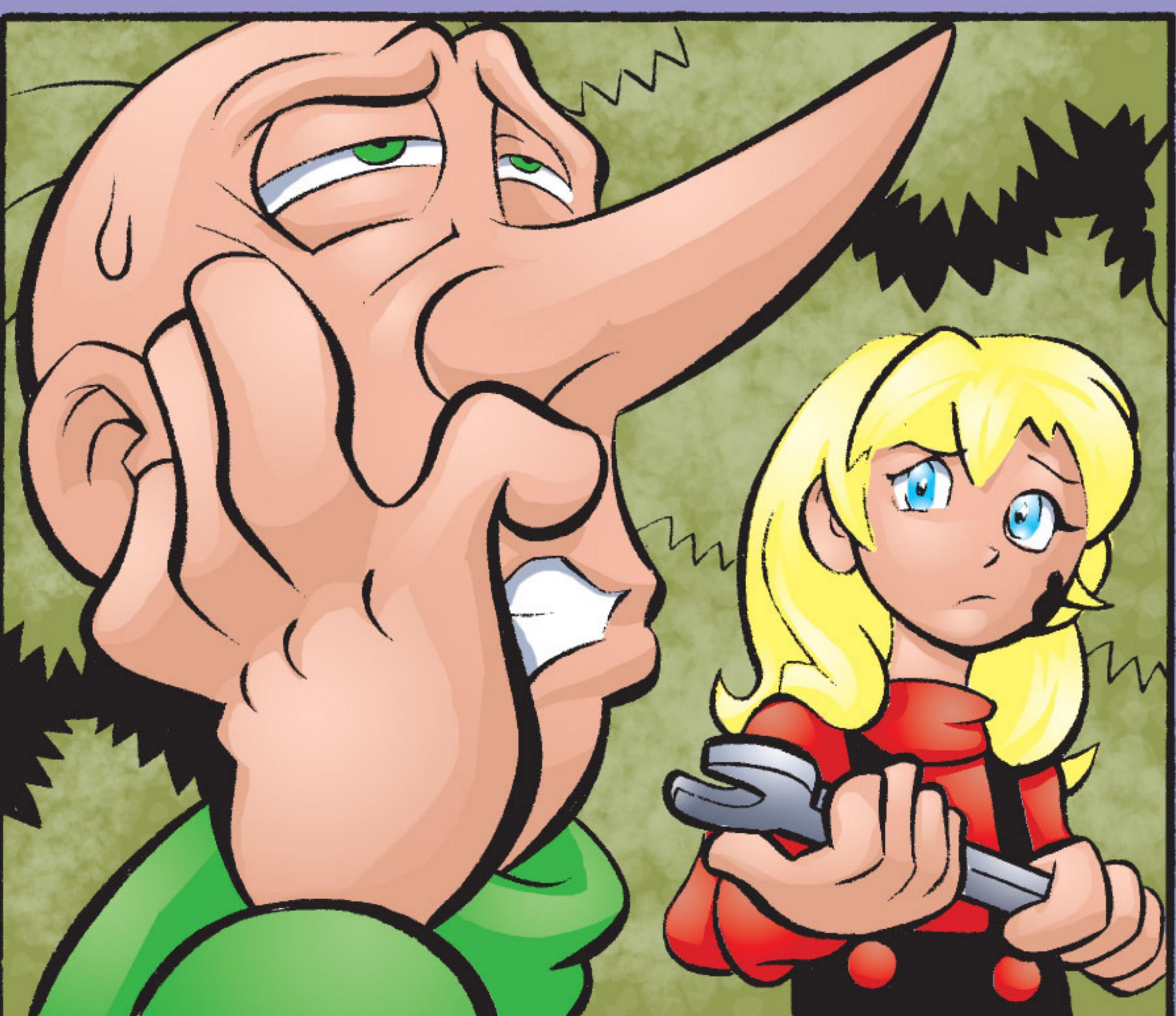
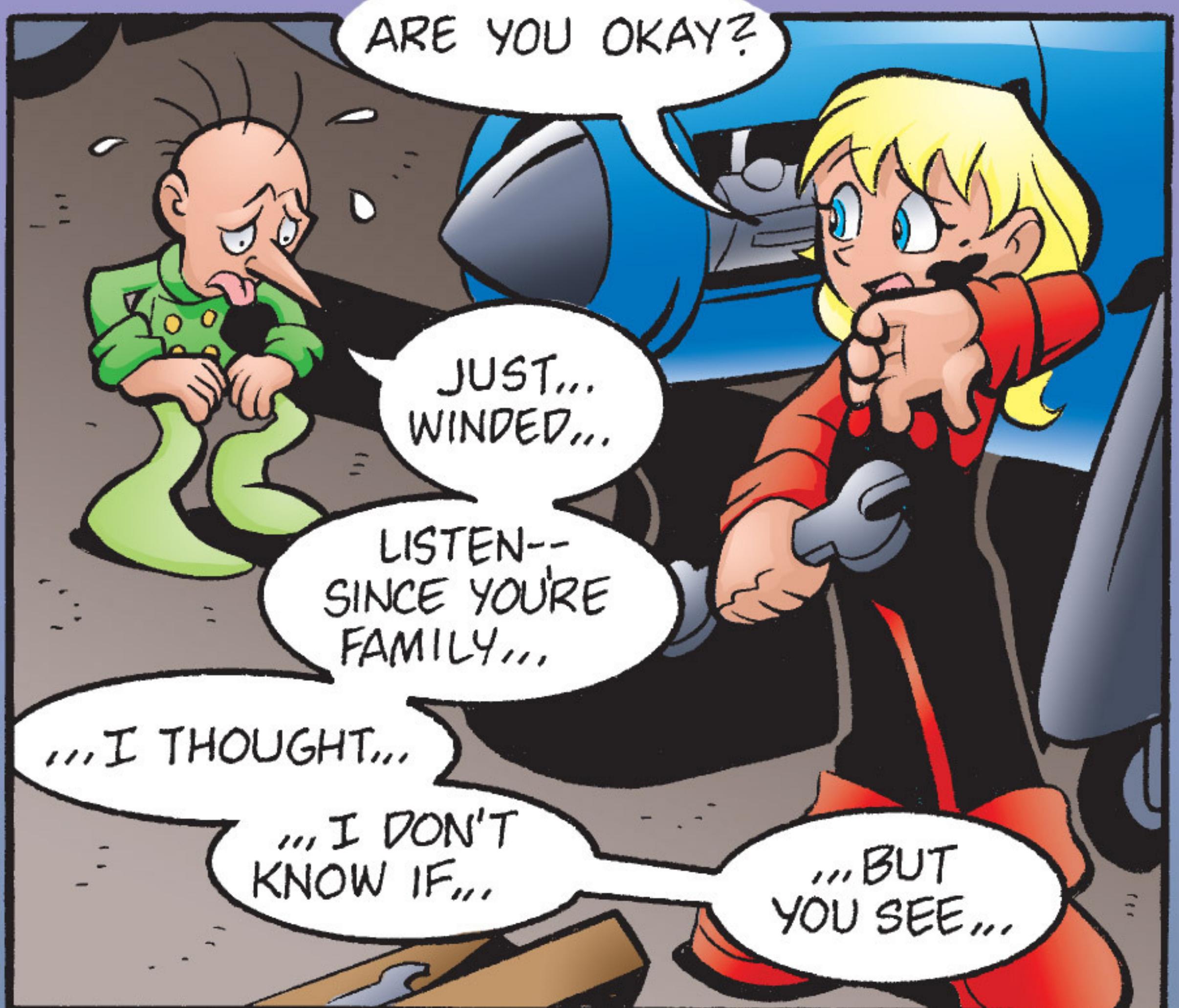
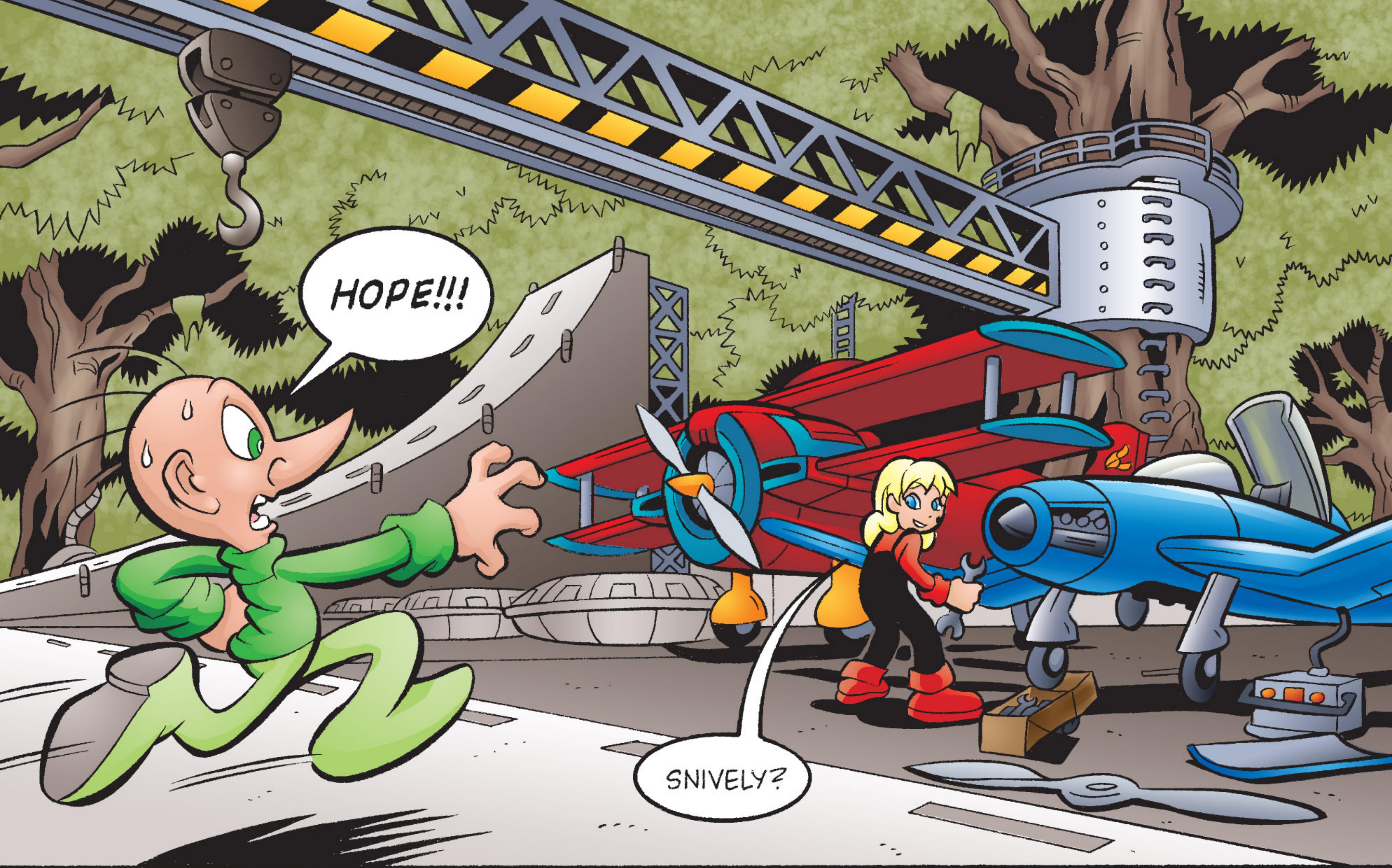
PHASE ONE--
COMPLETE.

TO BE CONTINUED

SNIVELY KINTOBOR WAS ONCE DR. IVO "EGGMAN" ROBOTNIK'S CHIEF TOADY AND IS ONE OF HIS FEW REMAINING RELATIVES. THE OTHER, HOPE KINTOBOR, IS A YOUNG ORPHAN UNDER THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS. NOW, LIKE HOPE, SNIVELY LIVES WITH SONIC AND HIS FRIENDS... BUT FOR HOW LONG?







DON'T GET ME
WRONG, I'M SURE
YOU LIKE IT
HERE.

EVERYONE HAS
BEEN GOOD TO YOU,
AND YOU'VE MADE SOME
GREAT FRIENDS.

BUT YOU
DON'T BELONG
HERE.

YOU NEED TO
BE WITH YOUR OWN
PEOPLE... AT LEAST FOR
A LITTLE WHILE. I HEAR
THE OVERLANDERS HAVE
EXPANDED CITIES ALL
OVER THE HUMAN
REGIONS.

MAYBE YOU CAN
FIND A PLACE IN THE
UNITED FEDERATION...

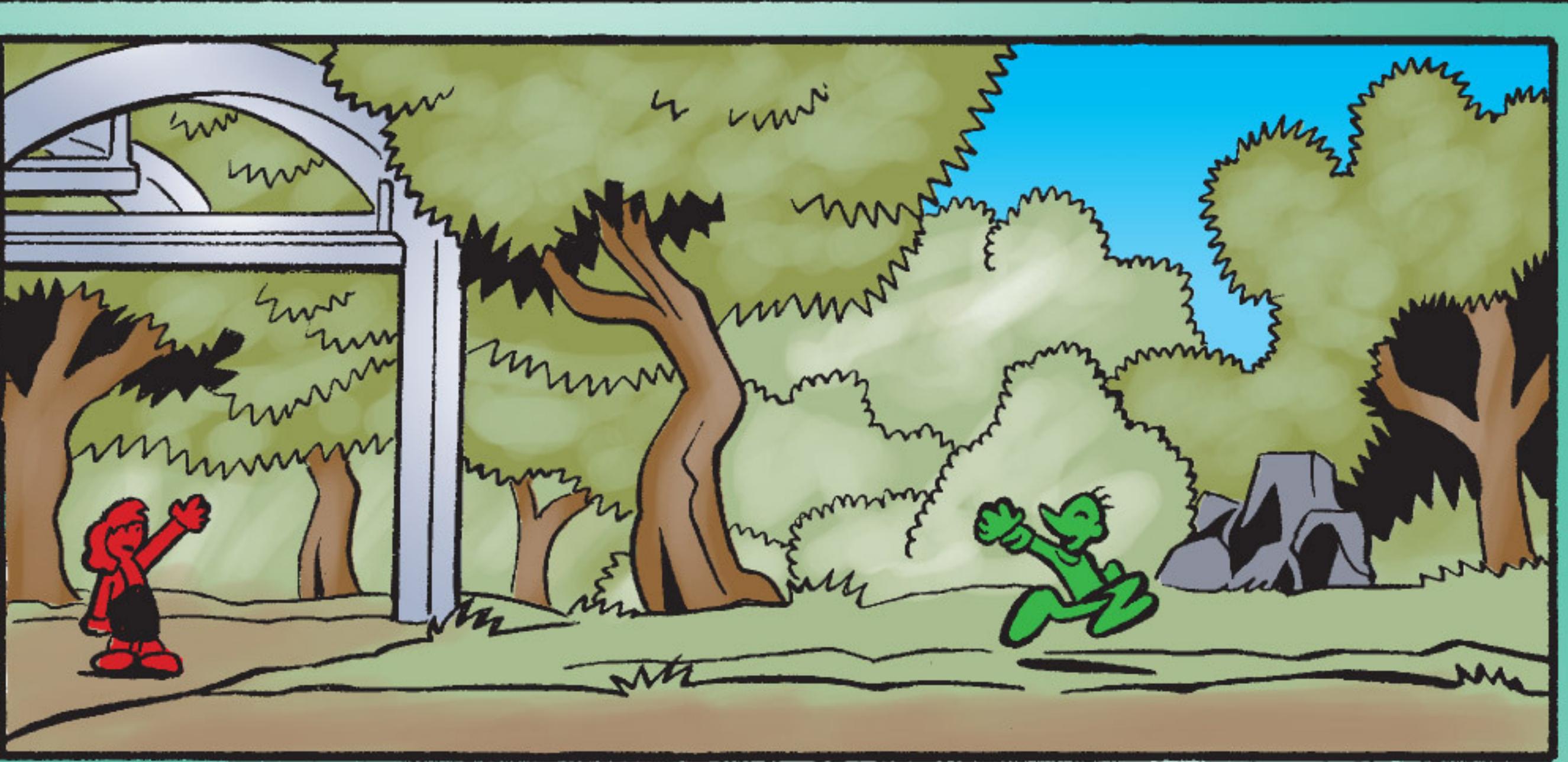
JUST TAKE THIS
AS STRONG ADVICE FROM
YOUR "BIG BROTHER".

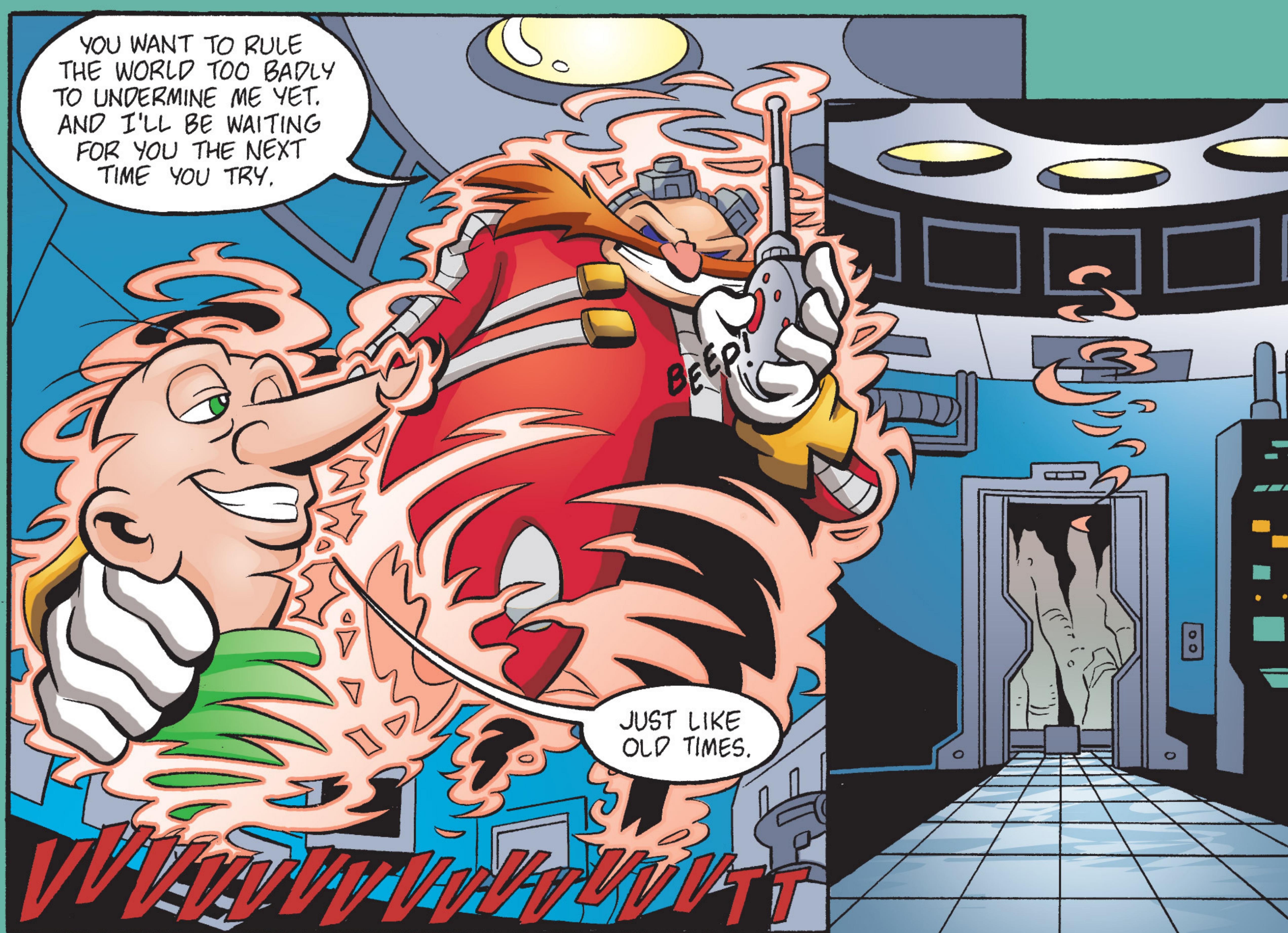
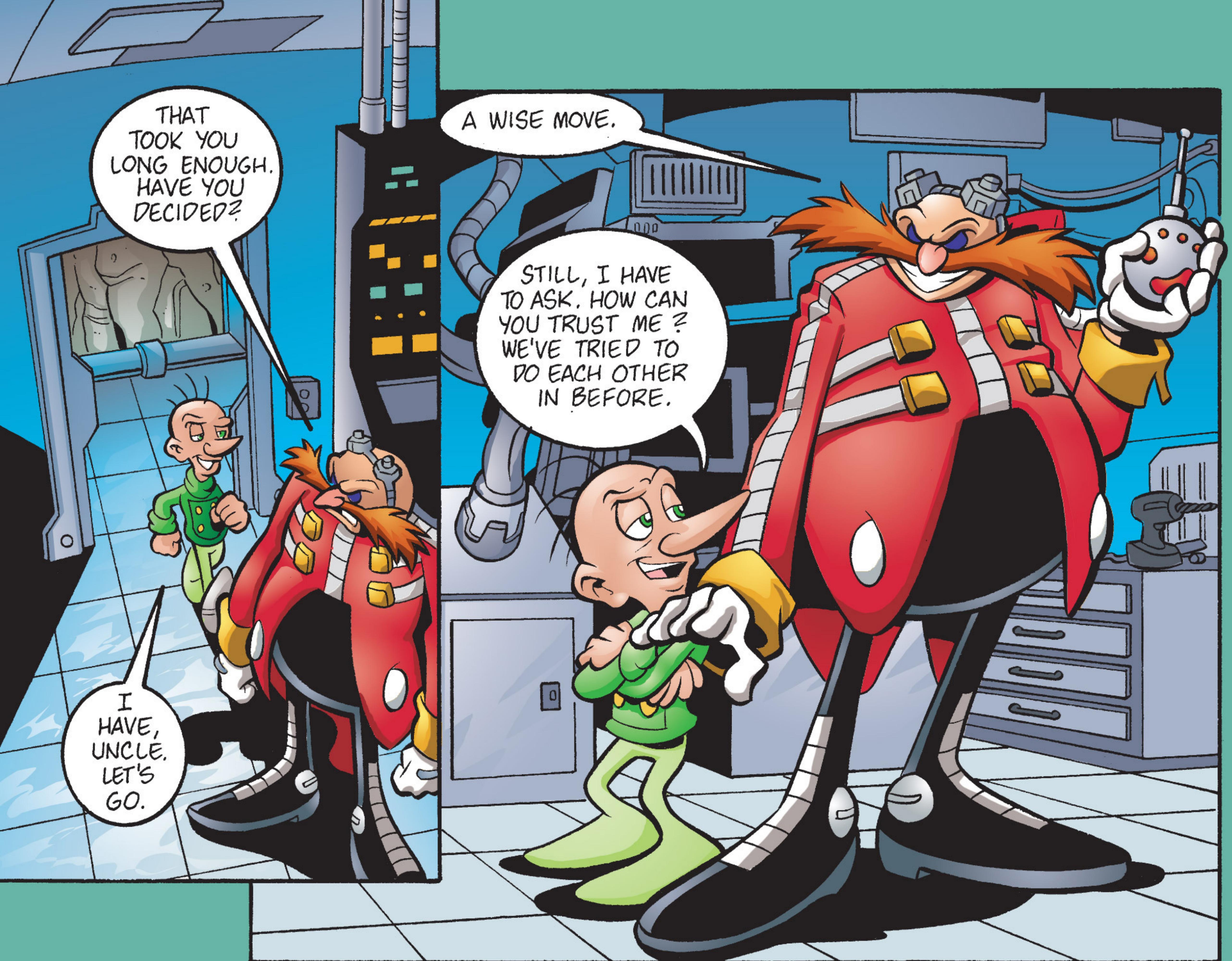
WELL...

I NEED TO THINK
ABOUT IT, BUT THAT
SOUNDS LIKE A
GREAT IDEA!

IT'S A BIG
STEP. MAYBE YOU
COULD COME
WITH ME?

IF I CAN,
HOPE.
YOU
NEVER
KNOW
WHAT THE
FUTURE
WILL
BRING.





AND SO...

SNIVELY ROBOTNIK.
I'VE COME FULL
CIRCLE.

I BETRAYED
MY FAMILY TO
WORK WITH MY
UNCLE. I BETRAYED
THE MOBIANS TO
HELP MY UNCLE
CONQUER THE WORLD.
I BETRAYED MY
UNCLE TO TAKE
THE WORLD FROM
HIM AND TO SAVE
MY OWN STORE.

NOW I
BETRAY THE MOBIANS
AGAIN TO HELP
MY UNCLE.

THANK YOU,
SONIC AND ALL
YOUR FRIENDS.

YOU TRUSTED
ME AND TOOK ME
IN WHEN I NEEDED
HELP THE MOST.

SUCH WEAKNESS
WILL NOT BE
TOLERATED IN
DR. EGGMAN'S
EMPIRE.

RUN, HOPE...
RUN.

NEXT ISSUE THINGS REALLY HEAT UP FOR SONIC AND
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! DON'T MISS SONIC # 163
ON SALE JUNE

AND, JOIN SONIC'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY MAYHEM
IN SONIC X #10, ON SALE JUNE

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